FISCAL NOTE

SB 3164 - HB 3597

March 11, 2012

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes Sullivan County, upon two-thirds majority vote by the county legislative body, to levy a privilege tax of $25 on all civil and criminal cases. Requires collected tax revenue be used exclusively for providing representation and support services to indigent defendants in criminal proceedings.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - $35,700

Increase Federal Expenditures - $69,300

Increase Local Revenue - $152,000/Permissive

Assumptions:

- Sullivan County levies $25 privilege tax following two-thirds majority vote of its legislative body.
- Based on information provided by the Comptroller of the Treasury, there are approximately 6,080 civil and criminal court cases each year in Sullivan County. As a result, the total recurring increase in local revenue is estimated to be $152,000 (6,080 cases x $25 privilege tax).
- According to the Department of Human Services (DHS), 299 civil actions and 175 criminal contempt actions (a total of 474) were filed by the Department for child support cases in Sullivan County in the month of January 2012. Assuming a monthly average of 350 per month, it is estimated there will be approximately 4,200 civil and criminal cases each year (350 x 12 months).
- The state receives a 66.0 percent federal match for all child support actions; the remaining 34.0 percent would be paid with state funds.
- The recurring increase in federal expenditures is estimated to be $69,300 (4,200 cases x $25 privilege tax x 66.0% federal match rate).
- The recurring increase in state expenditures is estimated to be $35,700 (4,200 cases x $25 privilege tax x 34.0% state portion).

- Of the $152,000 estimated to be collected by Sullivan County, approximately $69,300 is estimated to be derived from federal funding and $35,700 is estimated to be derived from state funding.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/jdb